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#62

JOHN MARSHALL  
*and* PHILADELPHIA

DEDICATION EXERCISES AT THE STATUE OF  
JOHN MARSHALL

ART MUSEUM  
WEST ENTRANCE

JANUARY 7TH, 1930

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#63

***The Duty of Congress in the  
Present Economic Crisis***

---

Speech of  
**Honorable James M. Beck**  
of Pennsylvania

in the  
**House of Representatives**

Monday, December 14, 1931

*(Not printed at Government expense)*



United States  
Government Printing Office  
Washington : 1931

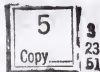
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535

The ninth of a series of fifteen minute talks over the blue network of the National Broadcasting Company, sponsored by the SENTINELS OF THE REPUBLIC, delivered November 29, 1931. These broadcasts take place each Sunday, at 1:00 P. M. eastern standard time, during the fall and winter of 1931-1932.



# **The People and their Constitution**

BY

**HON. JAMES M. BECK**

*Member of Congress from Pennsylvania*

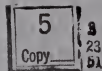
*Former Solicitor General of the United States*

Printed by the Sentinels of the Republic, National Press Building, Washington, D. C.

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#165

# THE MENACE OF BUREAUCRACY

ADDRESS

By HON. JAMES M. BECK

*A Representative from Pennsylvania*

NOVEMBER 10, 1931

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#66

# THE MENACE OF BUREAUCRACY

ADDRESS

By HON. JAMES M. BECK

*A Representative from Pennsylvania*

NOVEMBER 10, 1931

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#67

71st Congress, 3d Session

House Document No. 792

# WASHINGTON AND THE UNION

## ADDRESS

*By* HON. JAMES M. BECK  
A REPRESENTATIVE FROM  
PENNSYLVANIA

*February 23, 1931*



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CLASS DAY ADDRESS

"BABBITTRY AND THE BAR"

BY

THE HON. JAMES M. BECK

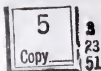
(CONGRESSMAN FROM PENNSYLVANIA; FORMER SOLICITOR  
GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES)

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

JUNE 9, 1931

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# The Memory of Joffre

#169

Address

delivered in the

House of Representatives

January 7, 1931

by

**Hon. James M. Beck**

a Representative from Pennsylvania

to

*(Not printed at Government expense)*



United States  
Government Printing Office  
Washington : 1931

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#70

## ADDRESS

BY

REPRESENTATIVE JAMES M. BECK

of Pennsylvania

---

"The Perpetuity of the Union"

---

THE UNION LEAGUE

OF PHILADELPHIA

MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 27, 1931

X.E 742

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#71

# THOU SHALT NOT

By JAMES M. BECK

(Read April 23, 1931)

THE title of this address is not of my selection and leaves me in some doubt as to the exact subject which the Society desires me to discuss. I shall assume, however, that it is the justice and efficacy of prohibitory laws.

As this is the birthday of Shakespeare, who is traditionally supposed to have violated the poaching laws of his own time and thus made possible his subsequent career as a dramatist in London, I may be pardoned for two quotations from his masterful mind. In one he describes the prohibitory laws of his own day as follows:

“Laws for all faults,  
But faults so countenanced that the strong statutes  
Stand like the forfeits in a barber's shop  
As much in mock as mark.”

And the other his admonition,

“We must not make a scarecrow of the law  
Setting it up to fear the birds of prey—  
And let it keep one shape, till custom make it  
Their perch, and not their terror.”

The first quotation felicitously described the present condition of our statute books; the second serves to give to this generation the much-needed admonition that a penal code, which unduly attempts to regulate the life of the individual, simply serves to “make a scarecrow of the law.”

*In limine*, let me first challenge two mistaken beliefs, which are of such general acceptance that not only the Babbitts, but even wise men regard them as indisputable.

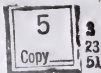
The first is the common statement that Congress and the legislatures of the Federal Union are daily grinding out thousands of laws to regulate the conduct of individuals. I have

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Reprinted from *Proceedings American Philosophical Society*, Vol. lxx., No. 3, 1931

X-E 742

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#72

# *The President and the Economic Program*

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Speech of  
**Hon. James M. Beck**  
of Pennsylvania  
in the  
House of Representatives

Saturday, May 7, 1932



*(Not printed at Government expense)*



United States  
Government Printing Office  
Washington : 1932

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#73

# ***The President and the Economic Program***

---

---

Speech of  
**Hon. James M. Beck**  
of Pennsylvania

In the  
**House of Representatives**

Saturday, May 7, 1932



*(Not printed at Government expense)*



United States  
Government Printing Office  
Washington : 1932

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#74

# *The Memory of Franklin*

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Speech  
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In the  
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January 18, 1932

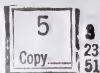
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Washington : 1932

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#75

# To Memory of Washington

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ADDRESS

OF

HON. JAMES M. BECK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

DELIVERED

AT THE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION  
AT THE EAST FRONT OF THE  
UNITED STATES CAPITOL

FEBRUARY 22, 1932

*(Not printed at Government expense)*



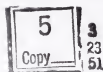
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# *The Equity Power of United States Courts in Labor Controversies*

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Speech of  
**Hon. James M. Beck**  
of Pennsylvania  
in the  
**House of Representatives**

Tuesday, March 8, 1932



*(Not printed at Government expense)*



United States  
Government Printing Office  
Washington : 1932

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#77

"The Constitution and  
Prohibition Repeal"

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Speech

of

Hon. James M. Beck

Representative in Congress  
From Pennsylvania.

+

*Arranged by*

THE WASHINGTON STAR

*and Broadcast Over a  
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THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING  
COMPANY

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Monday Night, Nov. 21, 1932

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*Compliments of*

The Evening Star

The Sunday Star

WASHINGTON, D. C.

X-E 742



Released for Publication, October 28, 1932

## "DON'T DROP THE PILOT"

#78

An address by Representative James M. Beck  
at the City Club of Boston on Thursday,  
October 27, 1932.

My fellow-countrymen:

I am greatly honored by the invitation of the City Club of Boston to discuss the issues of this campaign. This is a non-partisan organization, representative of the business men of this historic city, and I shall attempt to explain my views more as a citizen of the Republic than as a member of the Republican Party. I shall speak plainly, for the present crisis requires plain speech.

We are living in extraordinary times. Not in five hundred years has there been such a dissolution of ancient forms. Over thirty nations have already experienced radical changes in their form of government, while twenty-eight have repudiated their debts by a depreciated currency, and over twenty have formally refused to pay their obligations in any form of currency. A reaction, swift and terrible, against democratic institutions has swept over the world like the shadow of a huge eclipse. Our western civilization is still engulfed in the abyss of an unprecedented depression.

Throughout all history mankind has passed through an unending cycle of integration and disintegration. Progress has been one of ascending and descending curves, and the forces of government for a time will be centripetal and at other times centrifugal.

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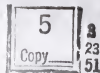
# SCRAPPING THE CONSTITUTION

By REPRESENTATIVE JAMES M. BECK



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# THE POWERS OF CONGRESS



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JAMES M. BECK

Representative, 1st Pennsylvania District

JESSE S. REEVES

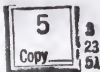
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#81

PUBLICATIONS  
OF  
THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
OF  
PENNSYLVANIA.

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Vol. XII.

MARCH, 1933.

No. 1.

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THE MEMORY OF PENN

An address delivered by the Honorable James M. Beck at a Reception held at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, October twenty-second, 1932, under the auspices of the Associate Committee of Women of this Society, in commemoration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the first arrival of William Penn in America.

We commemorate tonight an event of no mean importance. Two hundred and fifty years ago the ship, which brought the immortal founder of Pennsylvania to his province, dropped anchor in the Delaware River. At the time the world took little note of a fact of great significance; nor has it yet adequately appraised it.

It has been my custom for some years past to spend some days of each summer in Munich, to hear the opera. On one occasion I visited the Maximillaneum, which commemorates the glories of Bavaria. Among the rulers, statesmen and soldiers, whose portraits hung upon its walls, I was greatly surprised to see a portrait of William Penn, and I have often wondered how the ruler of Bavaria came to select the peaceful Quaker to be a part of this Valhalla. I may add that William Penn better deserves a place upon the walls than many who were his companions in that Hall of Fame. As some one has said: "The World does not know its greatest men."

Remarkable are the contrasts of history. Thus the year

# THE MEMORY OF SHAKESPEARE

## His Philosophical and Religious Interest

By JAMES M. BECK



THE AUTHOR, who has been a member of the seventieth, seventy-first and seventy-second Congresses, was formerly Solicitor General of the United States. He is widely known as a student of Shakespeare and is a member of the Shakespeare Society of Philadelphia. Among his books are: "War and Humanity," 1916; "Reckoning," 1918; "Passing of the New Freedom," 1920; "Vanishing of the States," 1926.

THIS is St. George's Day. The revered, but somewhat mythical, saint has symbolized for centuries the romance and chivalry of the English race. On the Sunday following the Armistice, it was my privilege to speak from the pulpit of an Anglican church in England. One-half of my audience were wounded English soldiers, and the valor and fortitude they represented seemed to illustrate the flaming line of Shakespeare:

*Our ancient word of courage—fair St. George!*

It is a happy coincidence that on St. George's Day, William Shakespeare was born, and on the same saint's day he died, fifty-two years later, for no one has ever given nobler expression to the higher ideals and heroic chivalry of the English-speaking race than the Stratford poet.

Shakespeare's medium was the theatre, and it should be remembered that the theatre is the child of the church, for it developed from the mystery and morality plays, with which the mediaeval church sought to dramatize either the great stories of the Bible or the sublime moralities of Holy Writ; and it is an infinite pity to all thoughtful men that the theatre, which is potentially one of the noblest cultural institutions of mankind, should have wandered so far from its mother's influences. Its debasement through the inordinate spirit of commercialism, which too often seeks to pander to the basest passions, is an immeasurable waste of a great moral and cultural asset.

Of all the children of men who have written for the theatre, and the library, incomparably the greatest is William Shakespeare. This is now the common verdict of mankind. You can measure the magnitude of his achievement if you will go to the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington—the noblest memorial to the great poet in all the world—and you will see, in the great reading room, more than

two thousand separate editions of Shakespeare, and that treasure house contains more than seventy thousand volumes relating in some degree to the great poet. Perhaps the most striking tribute to the timeless substance of his reputation is that stated by one of his greatest editors, Dr. Furness, in the introduction to the variorum edition of *Hamlet*. Speaking of this character of *Hamlet*, he says:

No one of mortal mold "save Him Whose blessed feet were nailed for our advantage to the bitter cross"—to interpolate a quotation from Shakespeare—ever trod this earth commanding such absorbing interest as this *Hamlet*, this mere creation of a poet's brain. No syllable that he whispered, no word let fall by anyone near him, but it caught and pondered as no words ever have been, except of Holy Writ. Upon no throne built by mortal hands has ever beat so fierce a light as upon that airy fabric reared at Elsinore.

Of Shakespeare's personality, we know little, but that little is favorable. The uniform testimony of those who knew him was that he was a man of an open, frank nature, whose distinguishing quality was his gentleness. His associates felt for him not only unbounded admiration, but a feeling of deep affection. Long after his death, his great rival said that he loved the man "this side of idolatry," and his fellow actors, who piously collected his plays after his death, gave as their excuse that their purpose was not one of self-profit or fame, but simply to keep the memory of "so worthy a man as was our Shakespeare." Note the affection of the pronoun.

It seems appropriate in this sacred edifice to dwell briefly upon the relation, if any, which Shakespeare's moral philosophy bears to the eternal truths of revealed religion.

That he was a churchman at least in the outward observance of the ceremonials of the Anglican church, is evidenced by the unquestioned records of his family life. In an Anglican church he was baptized and within its chancel he is buried.

LIKE to think of him in the evening of his life, sitting on a Sunday in the lovely church on the sweetly flowing Avon, listening to the noble ritual of the church and pondering with that great mind of his upon the utterances of the preacher. He died when only fifty-two years of age and had he been given his three score and ten, who can say what profound play he might have written of a deeply religious character? His mighty verse contains many references to Biblical events

and Scriptural truths. While many of these are casual and perfunctory, yet some contain very tender allusions to the doctrines of Christianity. What nobler gloss is there in all literature upon the beatitude "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy," than Portia's exquisitely beautiful plea for mercy, in which he refers to the Lord's Prayer in the words:

*We all do pray for mercy, and that same prayer should teach us all to render the deeds of mercy.*

And was ever the spirit of Christmas-tide more beautifully expressed than in *Hamlet*, where Marcellus says:

*Some say that ever 'gainst that season comes*

*Wherein our Saviour's birth is celebrated, The bird of dawn singeth all night long;*

*And then, they say, no spirit dare walk abroad.*

*The nights are wholesome, then no planets strike,*

*No fairy tales, nor witch hath power to charm,*

*So hallow'd and so gracious is the time.*

WE are, however, more concerned with the answer, if any, which Shakespeare sought to give to the unsolved problem of life. The great tragedies, which he largely wrote in the middle period of his life, and which superficially seem to suggest his belief in an irresistible and implacable fate—like the *anagke* of the Greek tragedies—do not themselves indicate that Shakespeare regarded the moral world an unfathomable vacuum. If any deduction can be drawn from the nature of his plays, then it is significant that in his later plots—nearly all of which he borrowed from older sources—written in his last years in the quiet of his Stratford home, the sweeter themes of repentance, kindness and mercy seem to animate his verse. While I have always distrusted the autobiographical interpretation of Shakespeare's plays, yet it may be true that, from the exuberant joy of his youth, when his finest comedies and noblest histories were written, he may have passed, in middle life, into the dark shadow of a moral crisis, from which he emerged in his later years with a spirit of kindness, magnanimity and faith. If so, it was as "light at eventide."

While he did not believe in Fate, in the Greek sense of an implacable power which predetermines our existence and de-

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#83

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# The Mission of the Republican Party

---

An address delivered by  
**Representative James M. Beck**  
at the  
**Lincoln Day Dinner**  
of the  
**National Republican Club**  
Waldorf-Astoria  
**February 12, 1934**

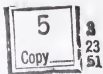
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With compliments of the  
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54 and 56 West 40th St.



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#84

**REPORT**  
OF THE  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP.

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***Shall the Federal Courts  
Be Destroyed?***

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#85

Speech of  
**Hon. James M. Beck**  
of Pennsylvania  
in the  
**House of Representatives**

Tuesday, May 8, 1934

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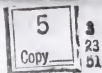
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Washington : 1934

57853—10327

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# THE MEMORY OF JEFFERSON

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#86

**An address**

delivered at the

**Jefferson Day Dinner of the Sons  
of the Revolution**

by

**Hon. James M. Beck**

President of the Washington Chapter of the Society

in Washington on April 12, 1928

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Printed in the Congressional Record April 17, 1928.

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*(Not printed at Government expense)*

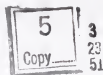


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# DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THE NEGRO #87

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Remarks  
of  
**Hon. James M. Beck**  
of Pennsylvania  
in the  
**House of Representatives**  
Wednesday, April 25, 1934

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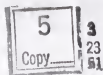


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#88

***The "New Deal"  
and the "Old Deal"***

---

---

Address of

**Hon. James M. Beck**

of Pennsylvania

delivered before the

**Illinois Manufacturers' Cost Association**

**Chicago, Ill., May 1, 1934**

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Printed in the Congressional Record of  
May 9, 1934

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*(Not printed at Government expense)*



United States  
Government Printing Office  
Washington : 1934

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The Square Deal  
AND  
The New Deal

ADDRESS OF

Representative James M. Beck  
of Pennsylvania

Delivered at the Calvin Coolidge anniversary  
exercises  
August 3, 1934.

ISSUED BY  
REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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★ ★

**"What Is  
the Constitution  
Between Friends?"**



★ ★ ★

Speech of

**JAMES M. BECK**

Former Solicitor General of the United  
States and Member of the National  
Advisory Council of the American  
Liberty League

March 27, 1935

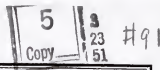


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## **The Duty of the Lawyer in the Present Crisis**

★ ★ ★

Some Observations on the Attempt  
by New Deal Spokesmen to Curtail  
Freedom of Speech as Exercised by the  
National Lawyers Committee of the  
American Liberty League.

★

Speech of

**JAMES M. BECK**

Member of the National Lawyers  
Committee and of the National Ad-  
visory Council of the American Liberty  
League over the National Broad-  
casting System, October 16, 1935.



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#92

**JOHN MARSHALL, JURIST and STATESMAN**

By

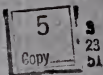
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**Former Solicitor General of the United States**

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**The People  
and  
Their Constitution**

**James Montgomery Beck**

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THE CONSTITUTIONALITY  
of  
THE TENNESSEE VALLEY  
AUTHORITY ACT

Closing Argument in the Supreme Court of the United  
States on December 20, 1935

by

JAMES M. BECK,  
*Former Solicitor General of the United States*

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#95

JOHN MARSHALL

Jurist and Statesman

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# PENNSYLVANIA HISTORY

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF  
THE PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

VOLUME III

APRIL, 1936

NUMBER 2

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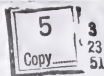
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# THE PRICE OF CIVILIZATION

*An Address to the Executive  
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BY

JAMES M. BECK



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ALEXANDER HAMILTON

#98

Alexander Hamilton devoted the greater part of his too sadly shortened life to the public service. He was a man of few words, but deep thoughts. No one except his great master and preceptor, Washington, was more free from demagogary. No one can read anything that Hamilton either said or wrote without knowing his precise meaning. Moreover, he was a man who, putting aside all selfish interests or personal advantage, made his interests those of 'his country's, his God's and truth's.'

What was Hamilton's greatest achievement? Unquestionably, the Constitution of the United States. I would not be so false to history as to imply by that statement that in the Constitutional Convention of 1787 he was the chief factor, for he was not. The part he played in the deliberations of the convention was a minor, and not altogether successful part. In his concrete plan for the proposed government he was a

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN



#99

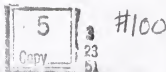
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It is true that Franklin was not a college student. His only elementary training was the reading of borrowed books by the flickering light of a tallow dip. His only college was the printing shop; his graduation was fleeing from harsh and intolerable treatment, and his diploma may have been an advertisement calling upon the public to apprehend a fugitive apprentice. As now portrayed in lasting bronze he not only typifies the unnumbered American boys, who have faced an unknown future with undaunted resolution and proud elation of spirit, but especially that sturdy breed of self-made men, in which America has been so productive and of which Franklin was the first and greatest example.

No ship ever brought so rich a cargo to Philadelphia as the little sloop from Bordentown which disembarked the youthful Franklin on Market Street wharf two hundred and eleven





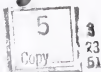
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STEPHEN GIRARD

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One hundred and four years ago, when the hallowed joys of Christman-tide gladdened the hearts of our people and the merry laughter of children resounded in their homes, an old man, as full of grief as years, without wife to smooth his dying pillow or children to receive his parting blessing, wearily sank into the dreamless sleep of the dead and rested forevermore from his labors. Years before he had experienced that compensation of long life to which Prince Bismarck gave such feeling testimony ~~mak~~ ~~xxx~~ ~~xxx~~ ~~xxx~~, when he said, "One of the advantages of becoming old is that one becomes indifferent to hatred, insult, and calumny, while one's capacity for good-will and love is increased." It did not require the winter of age to give Girard this serenity of mind, for his heroic soul had ever felt that conscious integrity of purpose which made him indifferent to either the censure or praise of his fellow-men

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THOMAS JEFFERSON

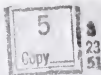
#101

Thomas Jefferson was the most successful politician that the American commonwealth has yet given to the world. I use the word "politician" in its original and nobler sense, for, as the late Thomas B. Reed once aptly said, "a statesman is only a dead politician."

For a quarter of a century the founder of this university dominated the politics of this country as no other man has before or since, and a "dead but sceptred sovereign," he still influences the minds of the people from his very grave on these lovely hills of Virginia whence in life came his mighty strength.

His extraordinary career is the more remarkable, for apparently his equipment for the conspicuous part which he played upon the stage of the world was exceptionally slight. His personality had none of the leonine majesty of the greatest of Virginians, who impressed

(p. 2. Addressed)



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WILLIAM MC KINLEY

#102

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That which we say of him should be said in words of simplicity, befitting the simple character of the man, and in this spirit let us voice our judgment that the late President was not only a very great man, but also a very good man. In both qualities of mind and heart he was a prince among his fellows. To use a nobler expression, he was a gentleman. It is difficult to determine which to admire most, the intellect, which could grasp with such unerring accuracy the details of government, or the loving, tolerant nature which disarmed opposition and gained for him the admiring confidence even of those who differed with him. He was gentle by nature, and yet had a masterful spirit. He was the dominating spirit of his administration, and had he lived he would, like Jefferson, have governed in the councils of his party long after he had ceased to be Chief Magistrate.

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WILLIAM PENN

#103

This is not the time or place to deliver a formal eulogy upon William Penn. I am rather prompted to suggest what would be his and our feelings if his august shade could again revisit the glimpses of the moon, and stand in our presence tonight. We should probably be surprised in finding in our midst, not the traditional, rotund, naive, and somewhat bucolic itinerant preacher, which the misguided genius of Benjamin West impressed upon the imagination of the world, but a strong, vigorous, alert, resourceful man of action, who, although from considerations of the highest piety he identified himself with a lowly and despised sect, was nevertheless an accomplished and successful courtier in the reign of four monarchs. In a sense, a ward of Charles II., he became the most trusted counselor of James II., who not infrequently kept his closest